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RHÔNE-STYLE RED BLENDS

New Releases

- 2013 Foxen**, “Cuvée Jeanne Marie, Williamson-Doré Vineyard,” Santa Ynez Valley (\$40) – Medium-light to medium ruby color; attractive, fragrant, spicy, cedary, blackberry and black cherry fruit aroma with hints of anise, dried herbs, and milk chocolate; medium-full to full body; forward, deep, rich, plummy, mouth-filling, red and black fruit flavors with firm acidity and some silkiness in the mouthfeel; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Shows some elegance and complexity, and very appealing to drink now. Very highly recommended. *14.2% alcohol; 500 cases; blend of 76% Grenache and 24% Mourvèdre; released November 2015.* (Group Score: 16.6 of 20 points, 3 of 11 first-place votes/1 second/2 thirds; My Score: 17 [92 of 100 points], first place)
- 2014 Eberle**, “Côtes-du-Rôbles,” Paso Robles (\$28) – Medium to medium-dark ruby; perfumed, spicy, toasty, dark cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with herbal notes and hints of dill, cedar chest, and cocoa; medium-full to full body; fleshy, toasty, rustic, red and black fruit flavors with firm acidity and a rich, rounded mouthfeel; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Show bright fruit and very easy to drink and enjoy now. Very highly recommended. *14.8% alcohol; 683 cases; blend of 39% Mourvèdre, 31% Grenache, 21% Syrah, and 9% Durif; to be released March 2016.* (Group Score: 16.6, 4/0/2; My Score: 17 [91/100], fifth place)
- 2013 Andrew Murray Vineyards**, “Espérance, Curtis Vineyard,” Santa Ynez Valley (\$30) – Medium-dark ruby; attractive, forward, brambly, strawberry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of white pepper and dried herbs; full body; big, concentrated, textured, savory, red and black fruit flavors with good depth, firm acidity, and some richness in the mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Developed with airing in the glass and very appealing to drink now and over the next year or two. Very highly recommended. *14.8% alcohol; 700 cases; blend of 60% Grenache, 25% Mourvèdre, and 15% Syrah; released Fall 2015.* (Group Score: 16.5, 3/1/1; My Score: 17 [91/100], second place)
- 2013 Beckmen Vineyards**, “Cuvée Le Bec,” Santa Ynez Valley (\$25) – Medium-dark ruby; attractive, deep, fragrant, black cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of black



pepper, cedar, and baking spices; full body; deep, rich, textured, spicy, red and black berry fruit flavors with peppery notes and a hint of vanilla; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very enjoyable to drink now as it developed with airing in the glass. Very highly recommended. *15.0% alcohol; 5,000 cases; blend of 45% Syrah, 40% Grenache, 8% Counoise, and 7% Mourvèdre; released July 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 0/4/1; My Score: 17 [91/100], third place)

5. 2013 Tablas Creek Vineyard, “Esprit de Tablas,” Paso Robles (\$55) – Medium ruby; attractive, spicy, complex, earthy, brambly, blueberry, blackberry, and black cherry fruit aroma with hints of smoked meat, white pepper, and black tea; medium-full body; cedary, red and black fruit flavors with spicy notes and tending to be slightly drying on the finish; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Not quite as rich or forward as some of the other wines in this tasting, but nicely balanced and shows some complexity as it developed with airing. Very highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 3,700 cases; blend of 40% Mourvèdre, 28% Syrah, 22% Grenache, and 10% Counoise; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.3, 0/3/0; My Score: 17 [91/100], fourth place)

6. 2014 Morgan, “Cotes du Crow’s,” Monterey (\$18) – Medium to medium-dark purplish ruby; youthful, forward, fragrant, raspberry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of cedar and baking spices; medium-full body; silky, red and black fruit flavors that are expressive and nicely balanced; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Easy to like and enjoy over the near term. Highly recommended. *14.2% alcohol; 6,500 cases; blend of 53% Grenache and 47% Syrah; released August 2015.* (Group Score: 16.1, 0/2/2; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], sixth place)

7. 2014 Abstract, California (\$32) – Medium-dark purplish ruby; big, deep, intense, ripe blackberry and blueberry fruit aroma with notes of dark chocolate and bacon fat; full body; big, dense, extracted, oaky, mouth-filling, red and black fruit flavors with a slight impression of sweetness in the mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Tending to an over-the-top style of red wine. Made by Orin Swift Cellars. Recommended, though with mixed opinions from our panel. *15.7% alcohol;*

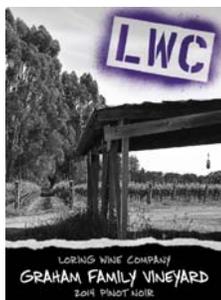
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28,000 cases; blend of Grenache, Petite Sirah, and Syrah (percentages not disclosed); released September 2015. (Group Score: 16.0, 1/0/2; My Score: 16.5 [87/100], eighth place)

8. **2014 Le Dragon**, “GSM,” Santa Barbara County (\$24.95) Medium-light to medium ruby; herbal, earthy, meaty, red and black berry fruit aroma with hints of white pepper and wet stone; medium to medium-full body; dark cherry and blackberry fruit flavors with hints of clove and chocolate, and a silky mouthfeel; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Easy to drink over the near term. Made by Margerum Wine Company for Whole Foods Market, and also available on Margerum’s website. Recommended. *14.1% alcohol; 224 cases; blend of 60% Grenache, 30% Syrah, and 10% Mourvèdre; released Winter 2015.* (Group Score: 15.8, 0/0/1; My Score: 16.5 [87/100], seventh place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] [6, 7, 8]

PINOT NOIR New Releases



1. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, “Graham Family Vineyard,” Green Valley of Russian River Valley (\$50) – Medium-light to medium ruby color; attractive, forward, black cherry and strawberry fruit aroma with hints of clove and mocha; medium body; vibrant, herbal, red fruit flavors with good depth and bright acidity; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Developed some complexity as it aired in the glass, and deserving several more years of bottle aging (as do all the other wines in this tasting). Very highly recommended. *14.7% alcohol; 125 cases; 100% Pinot Noir (PN); released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.6 of 20 points, 4 of 11 first-place votes/3 seconds/2 thirds; My Score: 17 [92 of 100 points], third place)

2. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, “Garys’ Vineyard,” Santa Lucia Highlands (\$50) – Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, forward, fragrant, complex, raspberry and black cherry fruit aroma with hints of clove, Asian spices, and forest floor; medium body; rich, deep, spicy, cherry and red berry fruit flavors with bright acidity, hints of ginger and cola, and a velvety mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. *14.8% alcohol; 400 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.5, 2/3/0; My Score: 17 [92/100], fourth place)

3. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, “Keefer Ranch Vineyard,” Green Valley of Russian River Valley (\$50) – Medium-light ruby; very appealing, fragrant, raspberry and strawberry fruit aroma with floral notes and hints of cinnamon, clove, and cola; medium body; bright, tightly focused, well balanced, elegantly styled, red fruit flavors with a slight plushness in the silky mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. *14.6% alcohol; 400 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.5, 1/3/0; My Score: 17 [92/100], second place)

4. **2014 Hartford Court**, “Land’s Edge Vineyard,” Sonoma Coast (\$50) – Medium-light to medium purplish ruby; attractive, assertive, earthy, spicy, cherry fruit aroma with hints of rose petals and vanilla; medium to medium-full body; rich, textured, earthy, red and dark fruit flavors with good depth and concentration, bright acidity, and a note of sweet oak; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. *14.9% alcohol; 1,800 cases; 100% PN; to be released March 2016.* (Group Score: 16.4, 2/1/0; My Score: 17 [91/100], fifth place)

5. **2014 Sojourn**, “Gap’s Crown Vineyard,” Sonoma Coast (\$59) – Medium-light to medium purplish ruby; attractive, deep, black cherry, raspberry, and blackberry fruit aroma with a floral note and hints of baking spices and forest floor; medium to medium-full body; rich, deep, fleshy, mouth-coating, red and black fruit flavors with a silky mouthfeel; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Developed with airing in the glass to show some elegance and complexity that should reward several more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.6% alcohol; 1,350 cases; 100% PN; released Spring 2016.* (Group Score: 16.4, 0/1/3; My Score: 17 [91/100], sixth place)

6. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, “Durell Vineyard,” Sonoma Coast (\$50) – Medium ruby; attractive, ripe, spicy, cherry and red berry fruit aroma with a floral note and hints of mocha and dried herbs; medium to medium-full body; rich, deep, well balanced, elegantly styled, red fruit flavors with herbal notes, vibrant acidity, a hint of cola, and a silky mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Richness, elegance and some complexity developed and blossomed as the wine aired in the glass. Very highly recommended. *14.2% alcohol; 200 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 1/0/1; My Score: 17 [92/100], first place)

7. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, “Rosella’s Vineyard,” Santa Lucia Highlands (\$50) – Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, fragrant, cherry and strawberry fruit aroma with earthy notes of mushrooms, rose petals, and forest floor; medium to medium-full body; rich, fleshy, cherry and red berry fruit flavors with firm acidity and structure, and a note of spicy oak; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. *14.8% alcohol; 400 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 0/0/2; My Score: 17 [91/100], seventh place)

8. **2014 Peacock Cellars**, “Reserve, Peacock Farms,” Arroyo Grande (\$45) – Medium purplish ruby; forward, deep, intense, black cherry and dark berry fruit aroma with hints of mocha and forest floor; medium-full body; rich, ripe, extracted, mouth-filling, textured, red and black fruit flavors that have good depth and concentration; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Needs a few more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 150 cases; 100% PN; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.2, 0/0/2; My Score: 17 [90/100], eighth place)

9. **2014 Sojourn**, Sonoma Coast (\$39) – Medium-light to medium ruby; forward, earthy, cranberry and black cherry fruit aroma with herbal notes and hints of clove and tea leaf; medium body; herbal, cedary, dark cherry and blackberry fruit flavors with crisp acidity, notes of baking spices and toasty oak, and a slightly rough mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.4% alcohol; 1,925 cases; 100% PN; released Spring 2016.* (Group Score: 16.0, 1/0/1; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], ninth place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8] [9]

PINOT NOIR

More New Releases

1. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, Sta. Rita Hills (\$36) – Medium-light ruby color; attractive, deep, spicy, raspberry and cherry fruit aroma with herbal notes and hints of cinnamon and clove; medium body; nicely balanced, elegant, spicy, red fruit flavors with good depth, bright acidity, and appealing richness in the silky mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very enjoyable to drink now and over the next year or two. Very highly recommended. *14.7% alcohol; 1,000 cases; 100% Pinot Noir (PN); released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.3 of 20 points, 6 of 12 first-place votes/2 seconds/2 thirds; My Score: 17 [90 of 100 points], first place)

2. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, Santa Lucia Highlands (\$36) – Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, assertive, raspberry and black cherry fruit aroma with herbal notes and hints of cinnamon and forest floor; medium body; rich, spicy, black cherry fruit flavors with some plushness in the mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Easy and enjoyable to drink now though best to age for another year or two. Very highly recommended. *14.6% alcohol; 400 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.3, 2/3/2; My Score: 17 [90/100], third place)

3. **2014 Peacock Cellars**, “Peacock Farms,” Arroyo Grande (\$30) – Medium to medium-dark purplish ruby; attractive, fairly intense, deep, raspberry and black cherry fruit aroma with a hint of cola; medium-full body; forward, rich, youthful, textured, black cherry fruit flavors with bright acidity; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Showed good depth, concentration, and aromatics as it developed with airing in the glass, though still deserving several more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 250 cases; 100% PN; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.2, 2/2/2; My Score: 17 [90/100], fourth place)

4. **2014 Loring Wine Company**, Russian River Valley (\$36) Medium-light brickish ruby; assertive, deep, cranberry and cherry fruit aroma with hints of mushroom and forest floor; medium to medium-full body; rich, spicy, nicely balanced, red fruit flavors with a hint of mocha and a silky mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Easy and enjoyable to drink now in its youth, though should also reward several more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.6% alcohol; 250 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.1, 1/2/3; My Score: 17 [90/100], second place)

5. **2014 Meiom**, Monterey County 48%, Sonoma County 27%, and Santa Barbara County 25% (\$25) – Medium-ruby with a purplish tinge; forward, fragrant, earthy, cherry and strawberry fruit aroma with a hint of mocha; medium to medium-full body; forward, rich, rounded, rustic, cherry fruit flavors with a trace of oak and some creaminess in the mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Shows some ripe fruit extraction and a hint of sweetness making the wine easy to drink now. Can be found discounted at around \$18. Highly recommended. *13.7% alcohol; 550,000 cases; 100% PN; released August 2015.* (Group Score: 15.7, 1/2/1; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], fifth place)

6. **2014 J. Lohr**, “Falcon’s Perch,” Monterey County (\$17) – Medium-light to medium ruby; tight, earthy, cherry and red berry fruit aroma with light toasty notes and hints of sage and forest floor; medium body; tight, red berry fruit flavors with bright acidity and a slight plushness in the mouthfeel; medium-light to medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Pleasant

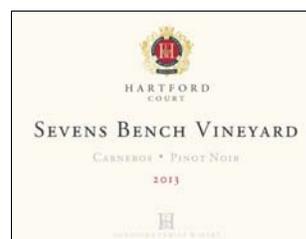
and easy to drink now, though a bit shy in varietal character. Recommended. *13.8% alcohol; 35,000 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/1/2; My Score: 16.5 [87/100], sixth place)

7. **2014 Au Bon Climat**, Santa Barbara County (\$22) – Light ruby; earthy, herbal, black cherry fruit aroma with a hint of clove; medium body; tight, slightly tart, red fruit flavors; medium tannin; slightly lingering aftertaste. *13.5% alcohol; 10,000 cases; blended with 10% Mondeuse; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 15.2, 0/0/0; My Score: 16 [85/100], seventh place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4] [5, 6] [7]

PINOT NOIR

More New Releases



1. **2013 Hartford Court**, “Sevens Bench Vineyard,” Carneros (\$65) – Medium-light to medium ruby color; attractive, fragrant, spicy, raspberry and cherry fruit aroma with hints of Asian spices and forest floor; medium to medium-full body; fleshy, textured, cranberry and black cherry fruit flavors with good depth and acid balance, along with spicy and earthy notes that were also found in the aroma; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Elegantly style and very appealing to taste now, though best to age for a few more years. Very highly recommended. *14.7% alcohol; 192 cases; 100% Pinot Noir (PN); released January 2016.* (Group Score: 16.6 of 20 points, 3 of 9 first-place votes/0 seconds/1 third; My Score: 17 [91 of 100 points], third place)

2. **2013 Gary Farrell**, “Rochioli-Allen Vineyards,” Russian River Valley (\$70) – Medium-light ruby; attractive, earthy, strawberry and Bing cherry aroma with hints of tea leaf, Asian spices, and cedar chest; medium to medium-full body; tight, crisp, red fruit flavors that have good depth and persistence; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Elegantly styled and showing hints of complexity that should evolve with several more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *13.9% alcohol; 414 cases; 100% PN; released February 2016.* (Group Score: 16.6, 2/1/1; My Score: 17 [92/100], first place)

3. **2013 Patz & Hall**, “Chenoweth Ranch,” Russian River Valley (\$60) – Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, forward, red cherry and raspberry fruit aroma with earthy notes, and hints of rhubarb and cola; medium-full body; forward, rich, savory, red fruit flavors with bright acidity, a trace of toasty oak, and a slightly plush mouthfeel; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Nicely balanced and

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structured to support a good five more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.2% alcohol; 1,347 cases; 100% PN; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.6, 2/2/0; My Score: 17 [91/100], fifth place)

4. **2013 Patz & Hall**, “Burnside Vineyard,” Russian River Valley (\$75) – Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, forward, rich, fragrant, spicy, black cherry fruit aroma with hints of clove, damp earth, and toffee; medium to medium-full body; rich, savory, red berry fruit flavors with bright acidity and hints of clove, cinnamon, and dried herbs; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Elegantly styled and showing some complexity as it developed with airing in the glass. Tempting to drink now, though best to age for several more years. Very highly recommended. *14.2% alcohol; 269 cases; 100% PN; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.6, 0/2/2; My Score: 17 [91/100], sixth place)

5. **2013 Foxen**, “Melville Vineyard,” Sta. Rita Hills (\$64) – Medium-light to medium ruby; fragrant, spicy, raspberry and cherry fruit aroma with hints of cardamom and rhubarb; medium to medium-full body; rich, textured, spicy, red fruit flavors with some plushness in the mouthfeel, though tending to be a bit tight on the finish; medium to medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Can use another year or two of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.0% alcohol; 150 cases; 100% PN; to be released March 2016.* (Group Score: 16.5, 2/1/0; My Score: 17 [90/100], seventh place)

6. **2013 Hartford Court**, “Fog Dance Vineyard,” Green Valley of Russian River Valley (\$65) – Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, forward, deep, complex, black cherry fruit aroma with hints of Asian spices and cola; medium to medium-full body; fleshy, supple, elegantly styled, cherry fruit flavors with bright acidity, hints of clove and chocolate, and a velvety mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very appealing to taste now, though should continue to develop with a few more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.6% alcohol; 408 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 0/2/3; My Score: 17 [91/100], second place)

7. **2013 Patz & Hall**, “Hyde Vineyard,” Carneros (\$70) – Medium-light to medium ruby; attractive, spicy, earthy, raspberry and cherry fruit aroma with floral notes and hints of clove and graham cracker; medium to medium-full body; rich, textured, cherry fruit flavors with bright acidity, earthy and herbal notes, and hints of baking spices and espresso; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Firmly structured and deserving a few more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.2% alcohol; 1,079 cases; 100% PN; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 0/0/1; My Score: 17 [91/100], fourth place)

8. **2013 Artesa**, “Sangiaco Vineyard,” Carneros, Sonoma Valley (\$80) – Light brickish ruby; fragrant, earthy, raspberry and cherry fruit aroma with a note of toasty oak; medium to medium-full body; relatively soft, lean, delicate, cherry fruit and toasty oak flavors with a slight creaminess in the mouthfeel; medium-light to medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.6% alcohol; 350 cases; 100% PN; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.1, 0/1/1; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], ninth place)

9. **2013 Merriam Vineyards**, “Three Sons,” Russian River Valley (\$75) – Medium ruby; deep, herbal, toasty, cherry fruit aroma with hints of rose petals and cedar chest; medium-full body; herbal, cherry and pomegranate flavors with crisp, bright acidity and notes of clove and charred oak; medium to

medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.7% alcohol; only 68 cases; 100% PN; released June 2015.* (Group Score: 15.9, 0/0/0; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], eighth place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] [8, 9]

PINOT NOIR

More New Releases



1. **2012 Calera**, “Mills Vineyard,” Mt. Harlan (\$58) – Medium-light to medium ruby color; attractive, deep, herbal, pomegranate and black cherry fruit aroma with hints of clove, baking spices, and forest floor; medium-full body; concentrated, textured, red fruit flavors with bright acidity, though a bit rough on the mouthfeel and finish; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Could use a few more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.9% alcohol; 1,402 cases; 100% Pinot Noir (PN); released Fall 2015.* (Group Score: 16.6 of 20 points, 4 of 9 first-place votes/2 seconds/1 third; My Score: 17 [90 of 100 points], second place)

2. **2012 Calera**, “Selleck Vineyard,” Mt. Harlan (\$90) – Medium-light to medium ruby with a purplish tinge; attractive, deep, intense, red currant and cherry fruit aroma with spicy and earthy notes, and hints of cocoa and sandalwood; medium-full body; deep, textured, black cherry and blackberry fruit flavors with a hint of sweet oak and some plushness in the rich mouthfeel; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Starting to show some complexity and deserving several more years of aging. Very highly recommended. *14.7% alcohol; 387 cases; 100% Pinot Noir (PN); released Fall 2015.* (Group Score: 16.6, 2/4/0; My Score: 17 [92/100], first place)

3. **2012 Alysian**, “Hallberg Vineyard, Crossroads,” Russian River Valley (\$55) – Medium-light ruby; medium-light, fragrant, cherry and red berry fruit aroma with floral notes and hints of dried herbs and Asian spices; medium body; well balanced, elegant, red fruit flavors with bright acidity and a silky mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Easy to drink now. Very highly recommended. *13.9% alcohol; 150 cases; 100% PN; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.3, 2/1/2; My Score: 17 [90/100], third place)

4. **2012 Native⁹**, “Rancho Ontiveros Vineyards,” Santa Maria Valley (\$64) – Medium-light brickish ruby; attractive, fragrant, earthy, raspberry and strawberry fruit aroma with hints of cinnamon and cola; medium body; crisp, tight, red fruit flavors with bright acidity that tends to give the wine a slight tartness in the mouthfeel, though still shows elegance and refinement; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Made by Alta Maria Vineyards. The number 9 refers in Native⁹ refers to 9 generations. Very highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 480 cases; 100% PN; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.2, 1/1/1; My Score: 17 [90/100], sixth place)

5. **2012 Alysian**, “Floodgate Vineyard, Rock Hill,” Russian River Valley (\$55) – Medium-light ruby; fragrant, spicy,

cherry fruit aroma with earthy notes and a hint of vanilla; medium body; slightly tart, spicy, cranberry and cherry fruit flavors with bright acidity and a silky mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Easy and enjoyable to drink now. Highly recommended. *13.6% alcohol; 280 cases; 100% PN; released January 2016.* (Group Score: 16.0, 0/0/3; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], fourth place)

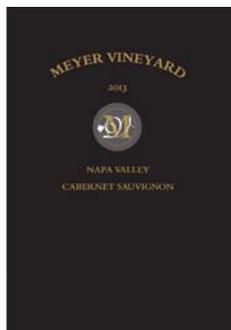
6. **2012 Alysian**, “Russian River Selection,” Russian River Valley (\$35) – Medium-light ruby; fragrant, earthy, cherry fruit aroma with a hint of rhubarb; medium body; crisp, slightly tart, red fruit flavors with a silky mouthfeel; medium tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *13.8% alcohol; 2,000 cases; 100% PN; released June 2015.* (Group Score: 16.0, 0/1/2; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], fifth place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4] [5, 6]

(We also later tasted **Alysian’s** 2012 “Singler Vineyard, House Blocks,” Russian River Valley (\$55) and 2012 “Floodgate Vineyard, Origins,” Russian River Valley (\$55). Both Pinots were elegantly styled with bright acidity and a silky mouthfeel, and ready and enjoyable to drink now. My score for each of these wines was 90 points.)

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

New Releases



1. **2013 Meyer Vineyard**, Napa Valley (\$70) – Medium to medium-dark ruby color; attractive, deep, cedary, cassis and blackberry fruit aroma with spicy notes and a hint of mocha; full body; rich, textured, red and black fruit flavors with good depth and some suppleness in the mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Showed very appealing richness and balance as it developed with airing in the glass. Very highly recommended.

15.4% alcohol; 900 cases; blended with 15% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot (PV); released Fall 2015. (Group Score: 16.6 of 20 points, 2 of 12 first-place votes/2 seconds/3 thirds; My Score: 17 [91 of 100 points], third place)

2. **2013 Chappellet**, “Signature,” Napa Valley (\$60) – Medium-dark to dark purplish ruby; attractive, intense, black cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with notes of cassis, green olive, and dark chocolate; full body; tight, herbal, cedary, blackberry fruit flavors that are concentrated and firmly structured, and also show some plushness in the mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Approachable now, though best to age for another three to five more years. Very highly recommended. *14.8% alcohol; 8,000 cases; blended with 12% Malbec, 5% Merlot, and 4% PV; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.5, 3/0/2; My Score: 17 [92/100], first place)

3. **2013 Caymus Vineyards**, Napa Valley (\$72) – Dark ruby; attractive, forward, intense, spicy, cedary, blue and black fruit aroma with notes of cassis and dried herbs; full body; fleshy, plummy, extracted, ripe fruit flavors which are rounded and show a slight sweetness in the rich mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Appealing to taste now. Very highly recommended, though some tasters questioned the aging potential of the wine. *14.9% alcohol; 119,950 cases; blended with 24% other undisclosed varietals; released June 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 3/1/2; My Score: 17 [90/100], fifth place)

4. **2013 Lail Vineyards**, “Blueprint,” Napa Valley (\$80) – Medium-dark to dark ruby; attractive, spicy, black cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of cassis, dried herbs, and milk chocolate; full body; forward, rich, textured, cedary, mouth-filling, blackberry fruit flavors with good depth and concentration, though a bit rough on the finish; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Shows appealing Cabernet fruit though deserving a good three to five more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *15.3% alcohol; 1,630 cases; blended with 5% PV; released June 2015.* (Group Score: 16.3, 0/3/0; My Score: 17 [92/100], second place)

5. **2013 Ferrari-Carano**, Alexander Valley (\$34) – Medium-dark purplish ruby; attractive, rich, cedary, cassis and black cherry fruit aroma with hints of baking spices and dried herbs; full body; rich, plummy, red and black fruit flavors with some plushness in the mouthfeel; medium-full to full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very approachable and enjoyable now, and also shows the balance to develop with further aging. Very highly recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 27,000 cases; blended with 15% Syrah; released August 2015.* (Group Score: 16.3, 2/0/0; My Score: 17 [90/100], sixth place)

6. **2013 Pine Ridge Vineyards**, Napa Valley (\$58) – Medium-dark to dark ruby; forward, rich, intense, cassis and black cherry fruit aroma with hints of dill, mint, and mocha; full body; big, rich, mouth-filling, red and black fruit flavors with undertones of American oak and hints of cola and baking spices; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very approachable now, though deserving another three to five more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.7% alcohol; 13,500 cases; blended with 4% PV, 3% Cabernet Franc (CF), and 1% Merlot; released July 2015.* (Group Score: 16.3, 0/2/1; My Score: 17 [90/100], seventh place)

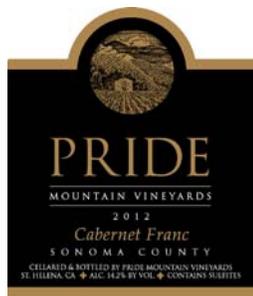
7. **2013 Corison**, Napa Valley (\$90) – Medium-dark purplish ruby; attractive, deep, blueberry and blackberry fruit aroma with herbal notes and hints of cassis, mocha, tobacco, and baking spices; full body; deep, concentrated, red and black fruit flavors that are well balanced and firmly structured; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. A bit tight at present, though shows some elegance and complexity and should continue to develop with another five years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 2,800 cases; 100% Cabernet Sauvignon; released January 2016.* (Group Score: 16.2, 0/2/1; My Score: 17 [92/100], fourth place)

8. **2013 Beaulieu Vineyard**, Rutherford, Napa Valley (\$32) – Medium-dark ruby; pleasant, dark cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of cassis, anise, and mocha; full body; moderately rich, fleshy, red and black fruit flavors with notes of dried herbs, dark chocolate, and well integrated oak; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. Appealing to taste now, though deserving a few more years of bottle aging. *14.5% alcohol; 25,000 cases; blended with 2% CF and Malbec; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.0, 2/1/0; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], eighth place)

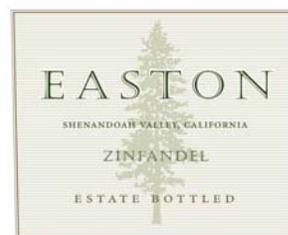
9. **2013 Halter Ranch**, Adelaida District, Paso Robles (\$35) – Medium-dark purplish ruby; pleasant, cedary, dark cherry fruit aroma with hints of cassis, mocha, and dried herbs; full body; rich, rounded, herbal, red fruit flavors with spicy notes and a hint of vanilla; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Enjoyable to drink now. Highly recommended. *14.4% alcohol; 5,200 cases; blended with 13% Malbec and 9% PV; released Fall 2015.* (Group Score: 16.0, 0/1/3; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], ninth place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] [8, 9]

CABERNET FRANC New Releases



ZINFANDEL New Releases



1. **2012 Pride Mountain Vineyards**, Sonoma County (\$65) Medium-dark ruby color; attractive, intense, fragrant, spicy, cedary, raspberry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of anise, green olive, and mocha; full body; rich, spicy, red and black fruit flavors that have good depth and a textured mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Very appealing now and should continue to develop with another three to five more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.2% alcohol; 1,258 cases; blended with 17% Cabernet Sauvignon (CS); released August 2014.* (Group Score: 16.4 of 20 points, 8 of 11 first-place votes/2 seconds/0 thirds; My Score: 17 [91 of 100 points], first place)

2. **2012 V. Sattui Winery**, Alexander Valley (\$37) – Medium-dark ruby; pleasant, forward, herbal, ripe blackberry fruit aroma with hints of green olive and mocha; full body; rich, textured, cedary, dark cherry and blackberry fruit flavors with spicy notes; medium-full to full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *15.5% alcohol; 570 cases; blended with 1.7% Malbec, 1.4% Merlot, 1.2% PV, 1.0% Alicante, and 0.7% CS; released January 2015.* (Group Score: 15.8, 2/3/4; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], fourth place)

3. **2012 Lang & Reed**, “Two-Fourteen,” Napa Valley (\$48) Medium ruby; herbal, spicy, cherry fruit aroma with hints of baking spices and dark chocolate; medium-full to full body; tight, herbal, cherry and dark currant flavors; medium-full to full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Shows some elegance and enjoyable to drink now, though should continue to develop with a few more years of bottle aging. “Two-Fourteen” refers to the clone of Cabernet Franc used. Highly recommended. *13.8% alcohol; 755 cases; 100% Cabernet Franc; released September 2014.* (Group Score: 15.8, 1/3/6; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], third place)

4. **2012 Trefethen Family Vineyards**, Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley (\$40) – Medium-dark ruby; attractive, fragrant, spicy, dark currant and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of espresso, green olives, and dried herbs; full body; rich, herbal, fleshy, dark cherry and blackberry fruit flavors; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Approachable now though should continue to develop with another three to five more years of bottle aging. Highly recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 800 cases; blended with 1% CS; released January 2015.* (Group Score: 15.7, 0/2/1; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], second place)

5. **2012 Easton**, “Monarch Mine Vineyard,” Sierra Foothills (\$22) – Medium brickish ruby; earthy, toasty, blackberry liqueur aroma with herbal notes; medium-full body; medium-full tannin; cherry and dark berry fruit flavors with some suppleness in the mouthfeel, though a bit tart and drying on the finish; lingering aftertaste. *13.5% alcohol; 217 cases; 100% CF; released January 2015.* (Group Score: 15.2, 0/1/0; My Score: 16 [86/100], fifth place)

True Ranking: [1] [2, 3, 4] [5]

1. **2012 Easton**, “Estate Bottled,” Shenandoah Valley (\$35) Medium ruby color with slightly brickish edges; attractive, brambly, raspberry and wild berry fruit aroma with hints of mushroom and graphite; full body; rich, textured, cedary, red and black berry fruit flavors with undertones of toasty oak; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *15.1% alcohol; 400 cases; 100% Zinfandel; released February 2016.* (Group Score: 16.1 of 20 points, 3 of 11 first-place votes/3 seconds/5 thirds; My Score: 16.5 [89 of 100 points], third place)

2. **2013 Old Zin Vines**, “OZV,” Lodi (\$13) – Medium-dark ruby; forward, intense, jammy, oaky, dark berry fruit aroma with hints of sandalwood, toffee, and smoked bacon; full body; rich, plush, jammy, mouth-filling, blue and black fruit flavors with oaky overtones; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.0% alcohol; other stats not available in time for publication.* (Group Score: 16.1, 3/1/0; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], fourth place)

3. **2013 Dry Creek Vineyard**, “Old Vine,” Dry Creek Valley (\$32) – Medium-dark purplish ruby; forward, deep, intense, briary, black cherry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of white pepper and dark chocolate; full body; big, deep, concentrated, red and black fruit flavors with a textured, slightly chalky mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 3,413 cases; blended with 23% Petite Sirah (PS) and 2% Carignane; released July 2015.* (Group Score: 16.0, 2/4/1; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], fifth place)

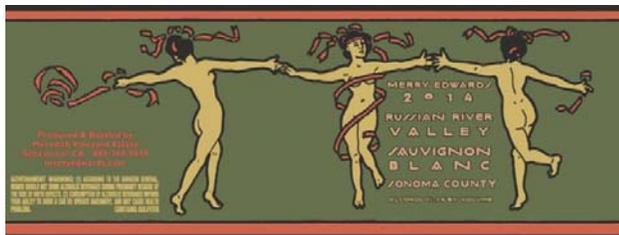
4. **2013 Limerick Lane**, Russian River Valley (\$36) – Medium-dark purplish ruby; attractive, dense, spicy, briary, slightly jammy, blackberry fruit aroma with notes of anise and black pepper; full body; big, deep, extracted, cedary, briary, mouth-filling, black fruit flavors; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Could use another year or two of bottle aging. Highly recommended. *14.6% alcohol; 1,964 cases; 100% Zinfandel; released Spring 2015.* (Group Score: 15.9, 1/2/3; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], second place)

5. **2013 Peachy Canyon**, “Especial,” Paso Robles (\$40) – Medium to medium-dark ruby; attractive, fragrant, briary, toasty, raspberry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of dill and mocha; full body; forward, rich, plummy, red and black fruit flavors with good depth and balance; medium-full to full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Appealing to drink now. Highly recommended. *15.0% alcohol; only 91 cases; blended with 25% PS; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 15.8, 2/1/2; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], first place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]



SAUVIGNON BLANC New Releases



1. **2014 Merry Edwards**, Russian River Valley (\$32) – Medium-light yellow color; attractive, assertive, citrus and white peach aroma with floral notes of jasmine and honeysuckle; medium to medium-full body; rich, layered, citrus and stone fruit flavors with tropical notes, some stony minerality, and a silky mouthfeel; lingering aftertaste. Shows elegance and hints of some complexity yet to come, deserving another year or two of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *14.1% alcohol; 9,500 cases; 100% Sauvignon Blanc (SB); released Fall 2015.* (Group Score: 16.6 of 20 points, 4 of 8 first-place votes/1 second/0 thirds; My Score: 17 [92 of 100 points], first place)
2. **2014 Grgich Hills Estate**, “Essence, Miljenko’s Selection,” Napa Valley (\$55) – Medium-light golden yellow; attractive, assertive, herbal, grassy, grapefruit and melon aroma with tropical notes; medium to medium-full body; crisp, citrusy, apple and tropical fruit flavors with bright acidity and some richness in the mouthfeel; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. *14.1% alcohol; 1,204 cases; 100% SB; released December 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 2/0/2; My Score: 17 [90/100], third place)
3. **2014 Peter Michael Winery**, “L’ Après-Midi,” Knights Valley (\$52) – Medium-light yellow; attractive, floral, white peach and passion fruit aroma with hints of honeysuckle and smoked almond; medium body; crisp, elegant, nicely balanced, citrus and stone fruit flavors with bright acidity and prominent minerality, along with a slight creaminess in the mouthfeel; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. *15.1% alcohol; about 2,500 cases; blended with 5% Semillon; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.4, 0/3/1; My Score: 17 [92/100], second place)
4. **2014 Tagent**, “Paragon Vineyard,” Edna Valley (\$13) – Light yellow; fresh, clean, herbal, moderately grassy, green apple and grapefruit aroma with mineral notes and a hint of gooseberry; medium-light to medium body; crisp, citrusy flavors with bright acidity and a silky mouthfeel; lingering aftertaste. Very highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 20,688 cases; 100% SB; released February 2016.* (Group Score: 16.5, 2/1/0; My Score: 17 [90/100], fourth place)
5. **2014 Decoy**, Sonoma County (\$20) – Light yellow; pleasant, floral, moderately grassy, green apple and kiwi aroma with herbal notes and a hint of honeysuckle; medium body; citrus and apple flavors with a slightly soft mouthfeel; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 34,800 cases; 100% SB; released April 2015.* (Group Score: 16.2, 0/0/2; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], fifth place)
6. **2014 Kendall-Jackson**, “Vintner’s Reserve,” California (\$13) – Light yellow; assertive, herbal, grassy, grapefruit and white peach aroma with hints of gooseberry and honeysuckle; medium body; crisp and refreshing in the mouthfeel with bright acidity and flavors of melon, pineapple, and citrus; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; over 50,000 cases; blended with 7% Semillon and 2%*

Chardonnay; released August 2015. (Group Score: 16.0, 0/0/1; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], sixth place)

7. **2014 Alysian**, “Grist Vineyard,” Dry Creek Valley (\$20) Medium-light yellow; attractive, herbal, grassy, grapefruit and passion fruit aroma with floral notes and hints of lychee and kiwi; medium body; crisp, citrus and wet stone flavors with good acid balance and a hint of oak; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *13.3% alcohol; 330 cases; 100% SB; released October 2015.* (Group Score: 16.0, 0/1/0; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], seventh place)

8. **2014 Stag’s Leap Wine Cellars**, “Aveta,” Napa Valley (\$26) – Light yellow; pleasant, herbal, floral, moderately grassy, grapefruit and white peach aroma with a note of wet stone; medium body; crisp, herbal, grassy, citrus and stone fruit flavors with tropical and mineral notes; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 9,000 cases; 100% SB; released April 2015.* (Group Score: 16.0, 0/0/1; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], eighth place)

9. **2014 Geyser Peak Winery**, California (\$14) – Medium-light yellow; moderately grassy, citrus and green apple aroma; medium body; crisp, slightly tart, lemon/lime and honeydew melon flavors; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *13.0% alcohol; 120,000 cases; 100% SB; released Fall 2015.* (Group Score: 15.7, 0/0/0; My Score: 16.5 [88/100], ninth place)

10. **2014 Dragonette Cellars**, Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara (\$28) – Medium-light golden yellow; intense, aggressive, herbal, grassy, grapefruit and bell pepper aroma; medium to medium-full body; herbal, citrusy, melon and tropical fruit flavors with some harshness on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Recommended. *13.9% alcohol; 1,200 cases; 100% SB; released Summer 2015.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/1/1; My Score: 16.5 [87/100], eleventh place)

11. **2014 Davis Bynum**, “Virginia’s Block, Jane’s Vineyard,” Russian River Valley (\$25) – Medium-light yellow; assertive, grassy, grapefruit, pineapple, and passion fruit aroma; medium body; crisp, lemon and green apple flavors with a light touch of oak and a slight hint of bitterness on the finish; slightly lingering aftertaste. Recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 1,400 cases; 100% SB; released Spring 2015.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/0/0; My Score: 16.5 [87/100], tenth place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4,] [5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11]

ABOUT OUR TASTING NOTES

OUR TASTING NOTES are the result of weekly double-blind tastings held in San Diego. Our scoring system at these tastings is based on the traditional 20-point Davis scale for wine evaluation. I also include a score using the currently more popular 100-point scale.

The group score and the number of first, second, and third-place votes appear, along with my (editor Nick Ponomareff’s) own scores and relative ranking, in parentheses after the comments on each wine. A “True Ranking” based on a statistical analysis of the results appears at the end of each set of tasting notes. Wines that do not differ significantly are enclosed within brackets.

Please also note that many of the wines we taste are only available direct from the winery through their mailing list or wine club. Information about a wine’s availability is best checked by visiting the winery’s website. Prices quoted are the retail price set by the winery, though many of the wines can be found discounted.

PETITE SIRAH

New Releases

1. **2012 Ancient Peaks**, Paso Robles (\$36) – Dark purplish ruby color; attractive, intense, blackberry fruit aroma with notes of black pepper and mocha; full body; forward, big, rich, jammy, black cherry and blackberry fruit flavors with spicy notes and a hint of dark chocolate; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Shows a lot of rich fruit and good acid balance. Very highly recommended. *15.0% alcohol; 235 cases; 100% Petite Sirah (PS); to be released March 2016.* (Group Score: 16.3 of 20 points, 6 of 12 first-place votes/2 seconds/2 thirds; My Score: 17 [90 of 100 points] first place)

2. **2012 Eos**, “Brohaugh,” Paso Robles (\$35) – Dark purplish ruby; rich, jammy, peppery, blackberry fruit aroma with a hint of bacon fat; full body; big, rich, extracted, mouth-filling, black fruit flavors with good depth and balance, and hints of dark chocolate and tobacco; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.5% alcohol; 214 cases; 100% PS; released May 2015.* (Group Score: 16.2, 4/3/2; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], third place)

3. **2012 Frank Family Vineyards**, “S & J Vineyard, Reserve,” Napa Valley (\$65) – Dark purplish ruby; attractive, spicy, cedary, blackberry fruit aroma with notes of black pepper, bacon fat, and charred oak; full body; big, concentrated, black fruit flavors with oaky overtones and some creaminess in the mouthfeel; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *14.1% alcohol; 1,000 cases; 100% PS; released September 2015.* (Group Score: 16.1, 0/2/4; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], fourth place)

4. **2011 Grgich Hills Estate**, “Miljenko’s Selection,” Napa Valley (\$65) – Dark purplish ruby; intense, plummy, peppery, blueberry and blackberry fruit aroma with hints of espresso, graphite, and dried herb, with some tasters noting an early trace of sulfur; full body; big, intense, concentrated, very ripe black fruit flavors that are firmly structured; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *13.9% alcohol; 503 cases; 100% PS; released December 2015.* (Group Score: 15.9, 0/4/1; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], second place)

5. **2012 Alta Colina**, “Ann’s Block, Estate,” Paso Robles (\$55) – Dark purplish ruby; forward, peppery, blackberry fruit aroma; full body; big, intense, extracted, textured, black fruit flavors with a rich mouthfeel, though a bit mouth-drying on the finish; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Highly recommended. *15.4% alcohol; 122 cases; 100% PS; released Spring 2015.* (Group Score: 15.9, 2/1/3; My Score: 16.5 [89/100], fifth place)

True Ranking: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

WINES TASTED FOR THIS ISSUE

Wine	My Score*
CABERNET FRANC	
2012 Easton “Monarch Mine Vyard,” Sierra Foothills (\$22)	86
2012 Lang & Reed “Two-Fourteen,” Napa Valley (\$48)	89
2012 Pride Mountain Vineyards Sonoma County (\$65)	91
2012 Trefethen Family Vineyards Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley (\$40)	89
2012 V. Sattui Winery Alexander Valley (\$37)	89
CABERNET SAUVIGNON	
2013 Beaulieu Vineyard Rutherford, Napa Valley (\$32)	89
2013 Caymus Vineyards Napa Valley (\$72)	90
2013 Chappellet “Signature,” Napa Valley (\$60)	92
2013 Corison Napa Valley (\$90)	92
2013 Ferrari-Carano Alexander Valley (\$34)	90
2013 Halter Ranch, Adelaida District, Paso Robles (\$35)	89
2013 Lail Vineyards “Blueprint,” Napa Valley (\$80)	92

Wine	My Score*
2013 Meyer Vineyard Napa Valley (\$70)	91
2013 Pine Ridge Vineyards Napa Valley (\$58)	90
PETITE SIRAH	
2012 Alta Colina “Ann’s Block, Estate,” Paso Robles (\$55)	89
2012 Ancient Peaks Paso Robles (\$36)	90
2012 Eos “Brohaugh,” Paso Robles (\$35)	89
2012 Frank Family Vineyards “S & J Vyard, Reserve,” Napa Valley (\$65)	89
2011 Grgich Hills Estate “Miljenko’s Selection,” Napa Valley (\$65)	89
PINOT NOIR	
2012 Alysian “Hallberg Vyard, Crossroads,” Russian River Valley (\$55)	90
2012 Alysian “Floodgate Vyard, Origins,” Russian River Valley (\$55)	90
2012 Alysian “Floodgate Vyard, Rock Hill,” Russian River Valley (\$55)	89
2012 Alysian “Russian River Selection,” Russian River Valley (\$35)	88
2012 Alysian “Singler Vyard, House Blocks,” Russian River Valley (\$55)	90
2013 Artesa “Sangiaco Vyard,” Carneros, Sonoma Valley (\$80)	88
2014 Au Bon Climat Santa Barbara County (\$22)	85
2012 Calera “Mills Vyard,” Mt. Harlan (\$58)	90
2012 Calera “Selleck Vyard,” Mt. Harlan (\$90)	92
2013 Foxen “Melville Vyard,” Sta. Rita Hills (\$64)	90
2013 Gary Farrell “Rochioli-Allen Vyards,” Russian River Valley (\$70)	92
2013 Hartford Court “Fog Dance Vyard,” Russian River Valley (\$65)	91
2013 Hartford Court “Sevens Bench Vyard,” Carneros (\$65)	91
2014 Hartford Court “Land’s Edge Vyard,” Sonoma Coast (\$50)	91
2014 J. Lohr “Falcon’s Perch,” Monterey County (\$17)	87
2014 Loring Wine Company “Durell Vyard,” Sonoma Coast (\$50)	92
2014 Loring Wine Company “Garys’ Vyard,” Santa Lucia Highlands (\$50)	92
2014 Loring Wine Company “Graham Family Vyard,” Green Valley (\$50)	92
2014 Loring Wine Company “Keefer Ranch Vyard,” Green Valley (\$50)	92
2014 Loring Wine Company “Rosella’s Vyard,” Santa Lucia Highlands (\$50)	91
2014 Loring Wine Company Russian River Valley (\$36)	90
2014 Loring Wine Company, Santa Lucia Highlands (\$36)	90
2014 Loring Wine Company Sta. Rita Hills (\$36)	90
2014 Meiomi Monterey, Sonoma, and Santa Barbara (\$22)	88
2013 Merriam Vineyards “Three Sons,” Russian River Valley (\$75)	89
2012 Native ⁹ “Rancho Ontiveros Vyards,” Santa Maria Valley (\$64)	90
2013 Patz & Hall “Burnside Vyard,” Russian River Valley (\$75)	91
2013 Patz & Hall “Chenoweth Ranch,” Russian River Valley (\$60)	91
2013 Patz & Hall “Hyde Vyard,” Carneros (\$70)	91
2014 Peacock Cellars “Peacock Farms,” Arroyo Grande (\$30)	90
2014 Peacock Cellars “Reserve, Peacock Farms,” Arroyo Grande (\$45)	90
2014 Sojourn “Gap’s Crown Vyard,” Sonoma Coast (\$59)	91
2014 Sojourn Sonoma Coast (\$39)	89
RHÔNE-STYLE RED BLENDS	
2014 Abstract California (\$32)	87
2013 Andrew Murray Vineyards “Espérance,” Santa Ynez Valley (\$30)	91
2013 Beckmen Vineyards “Cuvée Le Bec,” Santa Ynez Valley (\$25)	91
2014 Eberle “Côtes-du-Rôbles,” Paso Robles (\$28)	91
2013 Foxen “Cuvée Jeanne Marie,” Santa Ynez Valley (\$40)	92
2014 Le Dragon “GSM,” Santa Barbara County (\$24.95)	87
2014 Morgan “Cotes du Crow’s,” Monterey (\$18)	88
2013 Tablas Creek Vineyard “Esprit de Tablas,” Paso Robles (\$55)	91
SAUVIGNON BLANC	
2014 Alysian “Grist Vyard,” Dry Creek Valley (\$20)	88
2014 Davis Bynum “Virginia’s Block, Jane’s Vyard,” Russian River Valley (\$25)	87
2014 Decoy Sonoma County (\$20)	88
2014 Dragonette Cellars Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara (\$28)	87
2014 Geyser Peak Winery California (\$14)	88
2014 Grgich Hills Estate “Essence, Miljenko’s Selection,” Napa Valley (\$55)	90
2014 Kendall-Jackson “Vintner’s Reserve,” California (\$13)	88
2014 Merry Edwards Russian River Valley (\$32)	92
2014 Peter Michael Winery “L’Après-Midi,” Knights Valley (\$52)	92
2014 Stag’s Leap Wine Cellars “Aveta,” Napa Valley (\$26)	88
2014 Tangent “Paragon Vyard,” Edna Valley (\$13)	90
ZINFANDEL	
2013 Dry Creek Vineyard “Old Vine,” Dry Creek Valley (\$32)	88
2012 Easton “Estate Bottled,” Shenandoah Valley (\$35)	89
2013 Limerick Lane Russian River Valley (\$36)	89
2013 Old Zin Vines “OZV,” Lodi (\$13)	89
2013 Peachy Canyon “Especial,” Paso Robles (\$40)	89

* Editor Nick Ponomareff’s scores based on the 100-point scoring system.